



Montgomery County Council

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For Immediate Release

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**Statement by Council President Steve Silverman on Decision by
the state Public Service Commission regarding Washington
Area Power Plant Expansions**

"I'm happy that the Public Service Commission of Maryland has agreed to our request that any existing and future 'Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity' for expansions planned by area utilities in Montgomery and Frederick Counties be delayed for six months.

"We must have a chance to evaluate the cumulative impacts that multiple power plant generations along the Potomac River might have on our air and water. This time-out will enable the state to put together a cabinet-level task force to evaluate the full impact of requested expansions and which will, or will not, be in the public interest.

"This is particularly important now that the energy industry in Maryland is deregulated – and plants in Maryland aren't just producing for our own uses, but also selling nationwide.

"We've got to make sure we get the energy we need and protect the air we breathe and the water we drink.

"That's why the Council unanimously urged the Public Service Commission to delay any expansions for six months – and we're glad they've agreed to do just that." # # #